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THE
PROGRESS
OF
PHYSIC.

The SECOND EDITION,
Corrected, and considerably Enlarged.

I antæ molis erat ——— VIRG.

————— *operosa parvus*

Carmina fingo. HOR.

By W Ashley Cooper



LONDON:

Printed for J. STAGG, in *Westminster-Hall*; and
sold by J. ROBERTS, in *Warwick-Lane*.

M.DCC.XLIII.

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By J. ROBERTSON, M.D. F.R.S.
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T O

J. BAILLIE, M. D.

And one of the

PHYSICIANS to *St. George's Hospital.*

S I R,

WERE the following *Composition* equal to the *Subject*, it wou'd need no *Apology*. The *Progreſs* of an Art, whence you hourly derive ſo many *Bleſſings* on your *Fellow Creatures*, wou'd be the moſt acceptable *Preſent* I cou'd make you: but in the *Conduct* of It, I am very ſenſible how much I wanted the *Aſſiſtance* of One, whoſe *Taſte* of the *Belles Lettres* is no leſs *remarkable*, than his *Knowledge* in the *Materia Medica*.

AMONGST

AMONGST all its Faults, That which you will soonest discern, and (I fear) with most *Difficulty excuse*, is the short *Digression* wherein I have endeavour'd to do *Justice* to your own *Merit*, who are not more *studious* to deserve Applause, than *shy* of receiving It. But give me leave to say with *Horace* to his Friend *Lollius*—

† *Paulum sepultæ distat inertiae*
Celata virtus —

Though for want of his *Curiosa Felicitas*, I cannot add, without too great an Air of *Vanity*,

— *non ego Te meis*
Chartis inornatum silebo.

And yet, Sir, whatever *Defect* there may be in the *Manner* of this *Address*, I have taken due Care that the *World* shall find no *Fault* with the *Object* of It.

As your *Moments* are *precious*, I shall detain you no longer than just to assure you, that next to your *Approbation* of the *Piece* in general, what I covet most is your *Pardon* for the *Liberty* I have taken to mention you in It so much to your *Advantage*, who am,

S I R,

Your most Oblig'd Friend,

And Faithful Humble Servant,

† *Hor. Car. Lib. 4. Od. 9.* —

&c. &c.

N. B. The Gentleman to whom This is dedicated, is now abroad in the Character of Physician to the Army of the Allies in Germany.

THE

A R G U M E N T.

MEDICINE *artless and simple—much older than*
Phyfic exercis'd as an Art. — That and a new
Train of Diseases introduc'd after the Flood, by Luxu-
ry. — Its Beginning rude. — Sprung up in the Eastern
Nations. — Grounded upon the suppos'd Influence of the
Stars. — Studied and practis'd by the Magi. — Hence It
pass'd into Ægypt, where the Priests still had the chief
Exercise of It. — Their Cures, &c. inscribed on the Pil-
lars and Walls of their Temples. — Particular Branches
of the Science studied by particular Persons. — Hence
transplanted into Greece, but not brought to any great
Degree of Perfection till Hippocrates's Time, who first
made Phyfic rational. — A short Digression, by way of
Encomium on J. BAILLIE, M. D. — Phyfic next tra-
vels into Italy — brought into Disgrace by Quackery, &c. —

Galen, at length, explains every thing by the rigid Doctrines of the Peripatetics. — Did a great deal of Mischief, as well as Service, to this noble Art. — Much blam'd for This, but commended for the Pains he took with a View of improving Medicine. — Physic lost with other Arts and Sciences when the Goths, &c. over-ran Europe, but revived amongst the Arabs, after some Ages, tho' Galen's Errors still predominant. — Chymistry, the first great Improver of this Science, distinguish'd from Alchymy, an Art as old as Tubal Cain. — Another short Digression on the Vanity of hunting after the Philosopher's Stone. — The wise Use Mr. Boyle made of Chymical Experiments. — An Encomium upon him. — Another on Sanctorius. — The Discovery, or Demonstration of the Circulation of the Blood by our Countryman Harvey, fixes Physic on a more certain Basis than ever. — That, and Experimental Philosophy, afterwards carried to so great Lengths by Mr. Boyle, brought the Art nearer to Perfection in this Island than can justly be boasted of by any other Nation. — Surprising Discoveries in Anatomy and Botany. — The several Authors of 'em just mention'd, and compared. — Physic, at length, fixes her Empire in Britain, which concludes the Whole.

THE

THE PROGRESSES OF PHYSIC.

LONG ere Physicians knew the *Healing Art*,
Disease to quell—or ease the aching *Heart*—
 * *Med'cine* arose---at first by *Heav'n* design'd,
 With balmy *Wing* to shield, and bless *Mankind*:

In

* *THE Injuries and Vicissitudes of the Air*—the *Nature and Qualities of Foods*—
 the *Violence of external Bodies*—the *Actions of Life*—and lastly, the *Structure of the*
Human Frame, must have render'd some *Diseases*, and consequently *Medicine* as
 old as *Mankind*, tho' much chang'd and complicated in *After-Ages*.

In ev'ry *Field* some wholsom *Simple* grew,
 Its *Use* each ruder *Clown* and *Peasant* knew;
 Which, cull'd with *Care*, the wish'd *Assistance* gave;
 Not prompt to *kill*---if impotent, to *save*.---
 From *Trees*---from *Plants*---the easy *Cure* was sought,
 And from the murm'ring *Rill* Health flow'd *unbought*.
 The friendly, limpid *Draught*---the temp'rate *Meal*,
 Ne'er ask'd the *Aid* of *Bolus*---or of *Pill*---
 With equal *Force* their vigorous *Pulses* beat,
 No *Cordials*, then, to raise th' *extinguish'd Heat*;
 No frantic *Mirth*---nor *Melancholly*, then---
Heav'n's sharpest *Curse* upon the *Sons of Men*!
 To calm a *Fever's* Rage no *Arts* were try'd,
 Till, haply, of the * *Doctor*---*Patients* dy'd---
 Feebly, the *Limbs* no slacken'd *Nerves* sustain'd,
Hereditary Health---and *Vigour* reign'd.

BUT say, my *Muse*! these happier Ages past,
 How *Sickness* and *Disease* broke in at last---

From

* 'Tis hoped the *Faculty* will not resent this little Stroke of *Satyr*, and one that follows, since they are not level'd at the *Science Itself*, but the *Abuse* of It---At *Quacks*, not regular *Practisers*.

From *Man* to *Man* how *Plagues* unnumber'd spread,
 When *Physic* rear'd her *Scientific Head*,
 Such *Ills* combin'd, what *Mortal* can endure?
 How *Few* out-live the *Sickness*——and the *Cure*?

Not long the *Flood* had left the Face of *Earth*,
 And lost *Mankind* receiv'd a second *Birth*,
 Ere *Lux'ry* rose— with *Sickness* in her *Train*—
 And all the frightful *Family* of *Pain*:
Nature's spare *Wants* forsook the homely *Board*,
 With mad *Profusion* see each *Table* stor'd!
Invention labour'd to debauch the *Treat*,
 And whet the jaded *Appetite* to eat:
 Intoxicating *Wines*, henceforth, began
 T' inflame the *Blood* not chear the *Heart* of *Man*:
 Hence *Gout* and *Stone* afflict the *Human Race*;
 Hence lazy *Faundice*— with her *Saffron Face*—
Palsy, with shaking *Head*, and tott'ring *Knees*—
 And bloated *Dropsy*— the stanch *Sot's Disease*!
Consumption pale, with keen, but hollow *Eye*,
 And sharpen'd *Feature*, shew'd that *Death* was nigh—
 The feeble *Offspring* curse their crazy *Sires*,
 And, tainted from his *Birth*, the *Youth* expires.

FIRST, thro' the *East*, in social League, we find
 The sage *Physician* to the *Priesthood* join'd----
Physic, alone, the Rev'rend *Magi* knew;
 Its first *Inventors*----and *Corruptors* too---
 On *Stars*, and *Planets*, the rude *Art* they found,
 And tread, *inglorious!* on *enchanted Ground*;
 Nor dar'd the healing *Med'cine* to apply,
 If * *Saturn* glanc'd with a *malignant Eye*.

To *Ægypt* next *Physic* directs her *Flight*,
 There prun'd her *Wing*, and blest'd a clearer *Light*;
 O'er her fair *Face*, no artful *Veil* was thrown,
 Nor only from huge *Volumes* was she known,
 On † *Marble* sculptur'd---and the faithful *Stone*:
 Recording *Temples* now at once insure
 The Leech's *Fame*---and propagate the *Cure*.
 Nor *each* to ev'ry *Branch* as yet applies---
 But *This* the *Heart* cou'd cure, and *That* the *Eyes*;

The

* THE *Chaldeans* were the first *Astronomical Observators*, and are suppos'd to have built their *Notions* of *Physical Matters* upon *Aströlogical Grounds*---either the *Influence* of a particular *Planet*, or of some *Tutelar Dæmon*, were still consider'd.---Hence this *Superstitious Practice*, with the *Science Itself*, was deriv'd to the *Ægyptians*.---

† SEE *Wotton* on *Ancient and Modern Learning*, P. 107.

The ulcer'd *Limb* some only knew to *heal*,
While *Female Patients* blest'd *Another's Skill*.

HERE flourish'd long the *Pharmaceutic Arts*,
Which *Commerce*, ever-bounteous, next imparts
To ancient *Greece*---but slow their *Progress* still---
Rude and *imperfect* yet the *Medicinal Skill*:
When lo! *Apollo's* fav'rite *Son* arose,
The *Depths* of *Physic* studious to *disclose*;
* *Hippocrates*---who with a purer *Ray*
Beam'd on his *Followers* a brighter *Day*:
By *simplest* *Methods*, *slow* indeed, but *sure*,
Who first prescrib'd the *Dietetic Cure*:
Hence stubborn *Chronics* dwindled by *Degrees*,
And *Food* grew *Health*---that late was the *Disease*;
The *Fever's* *Rage*, obedient to *subside*,
Life's purple *Current* pour'd a gentler *Tide*;
Honey and *Milk* the sole *Specifics*, then,
The mild *Decoction*---and the cool *Ptisan*---
From

* BEING a Master of *Experience* as well as of *Analogy* and *Reason*, and withal vers'd in pure *Philosophy*, he first made *Physic* rational, and laid the *Foundation* of the *Dogmatic Medicine* which has since obtain'd---He press'd no *Hypothesis* into his Service, as may be seen in his *Book of Diseases, Affections, &c.*---He first started the *Doctrine of Critical Days* in *Diseases*; for which, (when *Polytheism* was in *Vogue*,) they were ready to take him for a *God*---'Tis certain none of the *Physicians* of *Old Greece* follow'd any *Theory*---of whom *Baglivi* says: --- *Quod nos per Leges Theoriæ, id Illi solâ mentis perspicacitate, longo Ufu confirmatâ peragebant.*

From *Nature's* Source he drew unerring *Laws*;
Such *Baillie's Practice* now---such * *Sydenham's* was:

O *Baillie!* if these *Numbers* reach thine *Ear*,
Accept this *Tribute*-----as Thyself *sincere*-----
Forgive the *Muse* officious thus t'employ
Those *Hours of Health* you help her to enjoy:
How *Few*, like *Thee*, such diff'rent *Virtues* blend,
And mix the *True Physician* with the *Friend*?
In whom thy *Classic Taste* and *Learning* join,
T' instruct, t' adorn-----to polish and refine-----
How *Few*, like *Thee*, with kindred *Sorrow* melt,
And weep those *Evils* which they never felt?
Balm to my *Woe*-----and *Comfort* in *Distress*!
Living I'll love *Thee*-----and shall, *Dying*, blest.

SUCH was the *Medic Art*-----O *Shame* to tell
What yet the faithful *Muse* must now reveal!
Nurs'd long in *Græcian Climes* with tend'rest *Care*,
She *Westward* fled---and breath'd a † *Roman Air* :

But

* *Artis nostræ Ornator & Ornamentum, qui sepositis Opinionum Commentis ad Observationes prorsus se dedit, & a primâ Ætate ad Extremum usque Senium cum Naturâ cohabitavit.*—says a *Learned Foreigner.*—

† *PLINY* says the *Romans* had an *Aversion* to *Physicians*, and their *Art*, till *Archagatus* came from *Greece* to *Rome*, where he practis'd *Physic* and *Surgery* with *Reputation*,

But soon, alas! her new-blown *Honours* fade,
 Her rising *Lustre* base *Impostors* shade,
 By *Roman* * *Misaubins* and * *W*----*ds* betray'd.
Rome had her *Quacks*---for such all *Climes* produce---
 The *Bane* of *Science*---and its worst *Abuse*-----
 No *Mede*---no *Hulse* was then---the *Art* to save-----
 It sunk---detested by the *Wise* and *Brave*.

GALEN, at length, review'd the sacred *Plan*,
 And to collect its scatter'd *Parts* began;
 Greedy of *Fame*, digested 'em with *Care*---
 Well were it, had his *Labours* ended there---
 But boasting clearer *Lights*, he tack'd to *These*
 Strange *Humours*---*Elements*---and *Qualities*---
 Confounding, thus, the † *Coan Master's Rule*,
 With the rude *Cant* of *Aristotle's School*:
 Of *Observation* left the fruitful *Fields*,
 For the wild *Waste* that ‡ *Speculation* yields:

A

putation—in the Year of *Rome* 535. — However, 'tis certain the *Art* was sunk very low in the *Opinion* of the *Romans* before that Time, by the *Roguery* and *Ignorance* of *Quacks*.—None but *Freed-Men*, &c. practis'd for a long Course of Years.—

* Two Eminent *Quacks* of the present Century.

† *Cos*, or *Coos*, an *Island* in the *Archipelago*, where *Hippocrates* was born. Hence so called.—

‡ *St excipias* (says a learned Author) *Paucos illos Observatores, qui Casus & Historias Medicas ad vivum prout, ab ipsa Rei Naturâ procedebant, describendo, Medi-*

D

cinæ

A *Fairy-Land*---and a neglected *Shore*---
 No *Æsculapian Sage* ere trod before---
Experience now held but the *second Place*,
 And *Truths*, best founded on her solid *Base*.
 No more---O sad *Reverse*! in *One* we view
 The watchful * *Nurse*, and wise *Physician* too---
 Subtle t' *explode*---as artful to *invent*---
 By Midnight Lamps a *Galen's Hours* were spent,
 Some fav'rite *System* anxious to *maintain*,
 The monstrous *Child* of his prolific *Brain*.---
 By dark *Solutions* to out-strip the *Wife*,
 And ere the *Race* was run---to snatch the *Prize*.

THUS far the *Muse*, reluctant, dares to blame
 Whom † *sixteen Hundred Years* have giv'n to *Fame*;
 Pleas'd she proceeds---still ardent to *commend*---
 Foe to his *Faults*---but to his *Worth* a *Friend*.

IF

cinæ Pomœria summopere ampliarent; ea quæ Reliqui adjecere, falsam Theoriam, & hujusmodi Ineptias spectantia; turbarunt potius, impediveruntque illius Progressus, quam indicarunt aut promoverunt.---

* IN *Hippocrates's Time*, and after, the most eminent *Physicians* watch'd almost *Day and Night* by their Patients *Bed-Sides*, and stuck close to *Observation*.---
 Whence called the *Clinic Sect*.---

† HE flourish'd in the *Time of Trajan*, and three succeeding *Emperors*.---He wrote 15 *Volumes*, besides *Notes*, on *Hippocrates*.---and died at *Rome*, *Anno Dom.* 140.---

IF unknown *Worlds of Medicine* to explore,
 T'expound their *Virtues*, and increase their *Store*;
 In search of *Truth*, if any Praise it be,
 To drain the *Mines* of deep *Philosophy*;
 Of known *Effects* to trace the hidden *Cause*,
 And scan by *Rules of Art* wise *Nature's Laws*;
 By *Envy's* self the *Debt* shall sure be paid,
 And latest *Honours* dignify his *Shade*.

WHAT Time the * *Gothic Swarms* forsook their *Hive*.
Learning no longer cou'd the *Shock* survive;
 Of *Human Art* no *Traces* we descry,
Art's fairest *Fruit*, and *Learning* wither'd lie:
 Defac'd---o'erthrown---and mingled with the *Dust*---
 The labour'd *Column*---and the breathing *Bust*---
Chaos return'd---all *Peace* and *Order* fled---
 O'er *Customs*, *Language*, *Laws*, thick *Night* was spread.
 Till, (as some long-lost *Stream* renews its *Source*,
 Which under-ground pursu'd its mazy *Course*,)
Science,

* AFTER the *sixth Century*, the Arts were not only extinguish'd, but almost all *Memory* of 'em lost till the *Ninth*, from which, to the *Thirteenth*, *Medicine* was vigorously cultivated by the *Arabs* in *Asia*, *Africa*, and *Spain*—Who applying Themselves particularly to the Study of the *Materia Medica*, and its *Preparations*, and to the Operations of *Chirurgery*, render'd both more just and copious at the same time—and yet *Galen's Errors* became now more predominant than ever.—

Science, again, to happier *Climes* restor'd,
Unveil'd her *Charms*---and was again ador'd.

THE fable *Night of Ignorance* withdrawn,
From bless'd *Arabia* broke the chearful *Dawn*;
Of *Med'cine*, lo! the long uncultur'd *Field*
Began to smile---and a new *Harvest* yield---
On *Afric's* settled, and *Iberia's* Shore,
The *Saracens* reviv'd the *Art* once more:
But *Galen's* *Errors* choke the wholsom *Soil*,
Obstruct its *Progress*---and confound their *Toil*.

NEXT *Chymistry*, which long in *Embrio* lay,
Started new *Lights*---and smooth'd the thorny *Way*:
Not, as of old, to * *Alchymy* confin'd,
Nor knew t' *enrich*, alone, but *bless* Mankind:
Long had she learnt t' *extract* the shining *Ore*,
But *Med'cine* now confess'd her *healing Pow'r*:
Strange *Worlds of Wonder* open'd to the *View*,
And *Old Discov'ries* were confirm'd by *New*.

BUT

* *ALCHYMY*, as contra-distinguish'd by some *Writers*, from *Chymistry*, consisted in refining *Metals*, and extracting them from their *Ores*.---This *Art*, older than the *Flood*, is ascrib'd to *Tubal Cain*, *Gen. iv. 22*.---It is but of late that *Chymistry* has been applied to *Preparations of Medicine*, and extended to *Plants, Animals, Minerals, &c.*

Mr.

BUT *Man* still restless, impotent, and vain,
 With Thirst of *Knowledge* fir'd, and sordid Gain,
 Knows not to *stop*---nor whither to *extend*
 His bold *Research*---still curious to no *End*---
 How Things are *made*---is not his narrow *View*---
 He must be *wiser* yet---and *make* them *too*:
 Like *God himself*, *Creative Pow'r* employ;
 Not *wonder* only---and with *Thanks* enjoy.

SEE, by his *Fires* the sooty *Artist* sweat
 To pass th' *Eternal Bound* by *Nature* set,
 Milled by *Aristotle's* dazzling *Light*,
 For *Transmutation* labour Day and Night!
 In quest of *Mountains* of imagin'd *Wealth*,
 His *Fortune* dissipate---his *Time*---his *Health*:
 From *Motion*, *Matter*, taught that all Things grew,---
 What cannot *Motion*, giv'n to *Matter*, do?
 As easy, sure, when *This* and *That* combine,
 To *forge* the glitt'ring *Mass*, as to *refine*.

Vain

Mr. Boyle, the most Eminent for *Observations* and *Discoveries* of this sort---*Paracelsus*,
Stachenius, and *Van Helmont* carried it to such a length, as to render *Medicine* almost
 wholly *Chymical*.

Vain *Reas'ner*! the fantastic Search give o'er,
 Or first—go—analyze the painted *Flow'r*—
 If long intent to sep'rate and compound,
 To pay thy *Toil* a *gen'ral Flow'r* be found,
 The *Grand Elixir* Thou may'st hope to *boast*,
 Nor find, in search of * *Gold*, thy Labour *lost*.

Not so a *Boyle* his useful Hours employ'd;
 The *True Philosopher's* unerring † *Guide*—
Boyle, for no *Systems* anxious to contend,
Experiment, the *Means*—and *Truth*, his End—
 Who wak'd to *Life*, and into *Action* brought,
 The *Child of Fancy*, flumb'ring but in *Thought*:
 Who *Chymic Aids* to *Physic* best apply'd,
 Nor boasted *Pow'rs* that Angels are deny'd:

Thro'

* ACCORDING to *Aristotle*, *Epicurus*, &c.—*Gold* and *Sand* are at bottom but one and the same *Matter* — The *Chymists* thought they had found out that *Salt*—*Sulphur*—and *Mercury*—with a few other *Ingredients*, (about which They are not as yet agreed) were the immediate *Elements* of all *Bodies*; but that there was in reality a *Primitive Matter*, which took all Sorts of *Forms* — that consequently nothing remain'd to be done, but to work upon that *Primitive Matter*, to present It with fit *Moulds*, and to give It a certain *Turn*, to have—*Gold*—*Jewels*—and the *Elixir Salutis*. This *Study* has been well defin'd to be.—*Ars sine Arte, cujus Principium est mentiri*—*Medium laborare*—& *Finis mendicare*.

† MR. *Boyle* rescued *Chymistry* from the *Censures* it had long lain under from the *Enthusiasm* of *Helmont*, &c. and has shewn of what infinite *Use* it is to *Philosophy* and *Medicine*, when kept within its proper *Bounds*.

Thro' all his *Works*, the *One Supreme* confess'd,
 And in the *Creature* the *Creator* blest'd---
 Who wisely knew to shun the wild *Extremes*
 Of *Sceptic-Doubtings*, and *Scholastic Dreams*;
 To surer *Science* pointed out the *Road*
 Which * *Boerhaave*, late---and ev'n a † *Newton* trod.

SAY *Muse*,---and next record *Sanctorius*' Name---
 Not least, *Sanctorius*, in the *List of Fame*---
 Who mark'd, to grosser *Outlets* not confin'd,
 Those subt'ler *Sluices* Nature has assign'd:
 By *Weight* and *Measure* fix'd th' *Eternal Waste*,
 That thro' the *Pores* in light *Effluvia* pass'd.
 Hence wisely taught that *Nature's Rule* is such---
Disease alike---too little, or too much---
 The ‡ *Health* we covet but a *Golden Mean*,
 When just *Proportions* guide the nice *Machine*:

The

* THE Great *Boerhaave*, allow'd to have been the first *Physician* and *Chymist* in Europe, justified no less by his own *Practice* the Use which our *English Philosopher* made of *Chymistry* in *Medicine*, and has mention'd him with the utmost *Honour*.

† MR. *Boyle's Discoveries* of the *Qualities* of *Bodies*, by the Assistance of *Chymistry*, were so considerable, that the illustrious Sir *Isaac Newton* himself has thought proper to follow his *Example*---When from the *Effects* of *Bodies*, he demonstrates their *Laws*---*Actions* and *Powers*---he always brings *Chymical Experiments* for his *Vouchers*.

‡ *Insensible Perspiration* is the most perfect Action of *Animal Digestion*; the keeping it up in due *Measure*, is the *Cause*, as well as *Sign*, of *Health*, and the least *Deviation*

The *Balance* broke, *Ills* that have scarce a *Name*,
Acute, or *Chronic*, wreck the tender *Frame*.

THE *Triumph*, still, is o'er *Effects* alone,
 Nor were *Diseases* in their *Causes* known,
 Till first *Immortal Harvey* led the way,
 And pointed where their secret *Sources* lay;
 All that the *Wise* had sketch'd in distant *Thought*,
 The Godlike *Harvey* saw—and prov'd—and taught:
 While *others*, dubious, hint the *Blood* to flow,
 'Twas * his, *alone*, to trace the *Manner*, how,—
 And in what *Time*, its rapid *Journey* done,
 Fresh from the *Heart*, again its *Race* is run.
 Hence *Physic*, to no slavish† *Sect* confin'd,
 Gave all her *Bigot-Systems* to the *Wind*;
 To nobler *Heights* her tow'ring *Head* she rears;
 The growing *Labour* of *Three Thousand Years*!

The

viation from that due *Quantity*, the certain *Forerunner* of a *Disease*. — See *Arbutnot*, on *Aliments*—P. 133.

* THE *Circulation* of the *Blood* has been generally allow'd to have been first discover'd in *England* in the Year 1628, by *Harvey*, a *Physician* of our own *Country*—tho' there are *several* who dispute that *Honour* with him, such as *Vander-Linden*, in *Holland*—*Realdus Columbus*, of *Cremona*—and *Andreas Cæsalpinus*, at *Venice*.—This *Notion* has, indeed, been occasionally and slightly treated by *Them*, as an *Hypothesis*, but never *demonstrated* 'till *Harvey's Time*.

† NULLIUS in *Verba jurare*, is not only the *Motto* of the *Royal Society*, but a receiv'd *Principle* among all the *Philosophers* of the present *Age*.

The *Queen of Science*, rival Nations greet,
 And lay their fairest *Trophies* at her Feet:
 The * *Tubes*—the *Glands*—*These* foremost to explain—
 The *Muscles*, *These* expound—and *Those*, the *Brain*—
 While *others* pore thro' Microscopic Glafs,
 And see the † *Lymph* thro' subtle *Strainers* pass:
 From *Sense*, not wild *Hypothesis*, deduce
 The Structure of each *Vessel*—and its Use.
 Tho' late, ‡ *Asellius*' Angel-Eye explor'd,
 Where *lacteal Rivulets* incessant pour'd;
 Thro' ** viewless *Ducts* meandring, had descry'd
 This Way and That, the *Chyly Fluids* glide;
 Thine, now, to mark—O †† *Picquet*, only Thine!
 Where, faithful to their *Course*, the *Milky Currents* join:
 Whence, upwards as they flow, again they part;
 Again, uniting, e'er they reach the *Heart*;
 The

* THESE several Discoveries in *Anatomy* are owing to *Wharton*—*Willis*—*Brown*, and others—since *Harvey's Time*.

† MALPHIGI was the first Discoverer of the *Lymphatic Vessels*, each of which according to Dr. *Arbuthnot*, is One Hundred Times finer than a *Hair*.—He died Anno 1694.

‡ ASSELLIUS first described, if not discover'd the *Lacteal Vessels*—Anno 1622. Six Years before *Harvey* discover'd the Circulation of the Blood.

** THE Coats of the *Lacteal Vessels* are so thin as to be invisible, except when distended with *Chyle* or *Lymph*.

†† HE first discover'd the *Receptacle of the Chyle*, and its Passage to the *Ductus Thoracicus*. Anno 1651.

The *Heart* whose *Frame* had mock'd all *Search* before,
 Unveils its *fibrous Texture* to a * *Lower*;
New Lights progressive dart from *Man* to *Man*---
 Hence, *Life* and *Motion*, *Others* next explain;
 While † *Ruysch*, intent more *Wonders* to contrive,
 Bids the *Injected Carcass* seem to *live*:
 With so much *Art* the mimic *Liquor's* thrown,
Nature mistakes---and thinks the *Work* her *Own*.
 Still as we gaze around our *Hemisphere*,
 New *Constellations*, and new *Suns* appear---
 A *Cowper*, *Drake*---a *Keil*, a *Cheselden*---
Egregious Names! the glorious *Race* have run;
 Haply, *Themselves*, at length, by *Girle* and *Sharp* out-
 done.

BUT see---with growing *Wonder* and *Surprize*,
 Where *vegetable Kingdoms* blooming rise!
Nameless 'till now, their *Tribes*, promiscuous, seen
 To People thick *Earth's* wide-extended *Green*;
 When

* THE Order of the *Muscular Fibres* of the *Heart* was not known before Dr. *Lower* described it---By this *Discovery*, *Alphonsus Borellus* was enabled upon *Mathematical* and *Mechanical* Principles, to give a more satisfactory Account of the *Methods* of Nature in dispensing *Life* and *Nourishment* to every Part of the *Body*, than had ever been given before.

† FRED. RUYSCHE, a considerable Dutch Professor of *Anatomy* and *Surgery* at *Amsterdam*---Famous for *Injecting* coloured *Liquors*, melted *Wax*, &c. into the dried *Vessels* of *Animals* to shew the *Disposition*, *Texture*, and *Ramifications* thereof, &c.

When *Tournefort* and *Ray* with * *rival Skill*
 Their *Kinds* distinguish---and their *Classes* tell---
 By kindred *Marks* recount the *Species* o'er
 Of ev'ry *Tree*---and *Shrub*---and *Herb*---and *Flow'r*:
 From generating † *Dust* how *Poplars* spring,
 Wafted from *Sex* to *Sex* on mild *Favonius'* Wing:
 How near to *Animals* some ‡ *Plants* ally'd,
 "What thin *Partitions* do their *Bounds* divide"
 How by nice *Links* the gradual *Scale* ascends,
 And *Life* begins---where *Vegetation* ends.

** *Mechanic Science* nor disdains to join
 Its wond'rous *Aid* to make the *Art Divine*:

From

* *TOURNEFORT* and *Ray* had great *Disputes* about the Division of *Plants*---
 The *First* dividing them into 14 *Genera*, chusing the *Flower* and *Fruit*, as the pro-
 per Marks of *Discrimination*---The *Latter* divided them into 25 *Genera*, taking in
 the *Roots*, *Leaves*, *Stems*, &c.---The *Distribution* of *Plants* into *Genera* and *Species*,
 is absolutely necessary to ease the *Memory*, and prevent its being overburthened with
 an *Infinity* of different *Names*.

† ACCORDING to the System of *Mr. Morland* and *Mr. Geoffroy*, the fine *Dust*
 observable on the *Pistil* of some *Flowers* impregnates the *Grain* or *Fruit*, enclosed
 therein---These are both *Male* and *Female* within *Themselves*---Those *Plants* that bear
Fruits without *Flowers* are distinguish'd into *Male* and *Female*---and *Mr. Geoffroy*
 takes it, that the *Wind* doing the Office of a *Vehicle*, brings the *Farina* of the *Male*
 to the *Female*, which he supposes to be the *Tomentum*, or *Down* of the *Fruit*.

‡ THE *Sensitive Plant* which shrinks at the *Touch*, is thought to be but one *De-*
gree below the *Animal Life* of an *Oyster*, or *Muscle*, whose *spontaneous Motion* is in
 the lowest *Degree* we can well imagine.

** *MEDICINE*, by late *Improvements* in *Philosophy*, is become all *Mechanical* and
Corpuscular: Instead of *Galen's Qualities* and *Degrees*, every Thing is now reduc'd
 to *Mechanical Affections*; to the *Figures*, *Bulks*, *Gravities*, &c. of the component *Par-*
ticles, and to the great *Principle of Attraction*.

From *East* to *West*, hence *Physic* boasts her Sway,
 And darts on *All* a more propitious *Ray*;
 But fix'd her *Throne* on fair *Britannia's Isle*,
 To whom she owes a *Harvey*--and a * *Boyle*.

* He first *discover'd*, or at least brought the *Air-Pump* to *Perfection*, which soon demonstrated the *Absurdity* of that common Notion, that *Nature* abhorr'd a *Vacuum* — Since he has shewn us the true *Origin* of *Qualities* of *Bodies*, Nobody has dar'd to advance the Chimærical Notion of *Substantial Forms*—By the Help of These, and other valuable *Discoveries*, many others have been made since his *Death*, and many more probably will be, and his *Reputation* rather increase than diminish in future Ages.—He died, Anno 1691.

N.B. IF it shou'd be ask'd why I have made no honourable Mention of the *Royal Society*---I have this to answer---That the *Subject* has been too copiously and elegantly treated by † *another Hand*, for Me to add any Thing but my *Wishes* for their *Prosperity*.

† *Sprat's History* of the *Royal Society*.



F I N I S.

